

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE TRIAL COURT
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Adrien Salzberg
MuckRock News
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Re: October 28, 2019 Request for Records

Dear Mr. Salzberg:

This letter is in response to your letter to the Office of the Jury Commissioner, pursuant to Massachusetts Public Records Law, requesting “[a] current list of all wheelchair-accessible courtrooms, jury deliberation rooms/floors, and other facilities at County Superior Courts.”

Please be advised that as part of the judicial branch of government, the Massachusetts Trial Court is not subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law (G.L. c. 66, § 10). The judiciary’s records are also not included in the definition of public records within the Massachusetts Public Records law. G.L. c. 4, § 7, 26th clause; *Lambert v. Executive Director of the Judicial Nominating Council*, 425 Mass. 406, 409 (1997); *See also* 950 CMR § 32.02 (excluding judiciary from definition of “governmental entity” for purposes of access to public records); *Kettenbach v. Board of Bar Overseers*, 448 Mass. 1019, 1020-1021 (2007) (“Under these regulations, the public records law applies to only one of the three branches of government, namely, the executive branch.”).

Despite not being subject to G.L. c. 66, § 10, the Trial Court does make every effort to fulfill public records requests. However, in this matter neither the Office of the Jury Commissioner nor the Executive Office of the Trial Court maintains records responsive to your request.

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elizabeth" and last name "Barrett" clearly distinguishable.

Elizabeth Barrett
Administrative Attorney